

The Listening Post

Kentucky Talking Book Library Newsletter

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
Kentucky Talking Book Library
300 Coffee Tree Road Frankfort, KY 40601
1-800-372-2968
Serving Kentucky's Need to Know

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Virginia Smith records her book

Our First Digital Book

The Kentucky Talking Book Library has been using our new digital equipment for about four months. After solving some initial problems, things are now running smoothly. In fact, we have completed recording our first book using the new equipment. *Dearest Dolly*, written and read by Greg Barnard, will soon be available for circulation to our patrons.

Buddy Barnard kept a journal of love letters written to his wife, Dolly, from the Philippines and Japan during WWII. In 1943 he picked Dolly from a group of girls at a high school dance in Pleasant Hill, Missouri. Buddy and Dolly were married in April, 1944. Since it was impossible to keep a diary in the swamps and jungles of the Pacific islands, Buddy Barnard began a journal fifteen days before the bombing of Hiroshima. These love letters to his young wife are a reflection of combat life as a soldier, as well as observations of the Japanese people and their culture. Buddy also asked his fellow GIs to write their own letters to Dolly. These “doughboy ditties” are written “to Dolly, the typical American sweetheart.” The GIs, who had faced death together, wrote of their feelings for one another in their letters. Most would never see each other again.

Greg L. Barnard is Buddy Barnard's son. He was born in 1947 in Butler, Missouri, ten months after Buddy's return from the war. He wanted the world to know about the love his parents shared for over 50 years, so he compiled these

letters into the book, *Dearest Dolly*. He lives in Danville, Kentucky, with his wife of 37 years, Linda. They have two children and three grandchildren.

Narrators who have used the digital equipment have nothing but good things to say. Long-time narrator Russ Hatter likes the new system's headphones because they remind him of the headphones he used when he was the morning DJ for a local radio station. He says being able to hear himself through the headphones keeps him focused on the text he is reading. Joe Johnson, who has been a narrator for the last five years, said, "The new digital system is excellent and greatly improves the quality of the work product. I hope the listeners will appreciate this advancement in the recording process. It certainly makes my job as a reader and that of my monitor so much easier."

We have even had a couple of authors use the digital equipment when narrating their own work: Virginia Smith recorded her Christian novel *Just As I Am* and Gatewood Galbraith is in the process of recording his autobiography. These books will be available soon.

NFB Announces New Online Mentoring Program for the Blind:

NFB-LINK (Linking Individuals to a Network of Knowledge) provides mentoring relationships for individuals who would like resources and guidance on a variety of blindness topics. The easy-to-use online system will match you with a knowledgeable, experienced mentor who can answer your questions and refer you to additional resources. Information on a variety of vocational, educational, and recreational interests is available through this innovative program. These comprehensive resources are based on the collective experiences of thousands of blind persons who have succeeded in various arenas. NFB-LINK is based on the National Federation of the Blind's can-do, positive attitude about blindness emphasizing high expectations, independence, and personal achievement.

Program services include:

- Online and in-person mentoring
- Advice for family and friends
- How to continue with your hobbies and interests, such as gardening, grilling, cooking, etc.
- Career development and opportunities
- Introduction to local and statewide blindness support groups and services
- Scholarship opportunities and advocacy training for blind college students
- Information for parents of blind children
- Resources for blindness professionals, e.g., ophthalmologists, teachers, rehabilitation counselors, etc.
- Tips for seniors experiencing vision loss

Please visit: www.nfbblink.org for more information.

Reasons You Have Not Received Books or Have Not Received the Books You Requested

1. You already have the maximum number of books checked out, or you have overdue books. Be sure you return each book as soon as you have finished reading it.
2. You are out of requests. Call your librarian to request books, or ask her to select some for you.
3. You have moved and you have not informed us of the address change.
4. The books you requested have a long waiting list. Keep in mind, popular books may have 50-100 patrons waiting to read them.
5. You have a long request list and have not yet worked your way down to the books in question.

Anytime you have any questions about your service, call your librarian at 1-800-372-2968:

A-F Barbara Penegor

G-O Janet Chisman

P-Z Wendy Hatfield

Mail Reminders

KTBL would like to remind patrons to send all correspondence, request lists, and library materials to us via Free Matter for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Simply write this in the upper right hand corner of the letter, order form or package, where a stamp would be placed.

We would also like to remind you not to include notes or book orders in book containers. Since we do not have the staff to check each book that comes in, the order or note will not be seen. The best way to contact us is to call your librarian at 1-800-372-2968.

Descriptive Video Mailing Cases

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are using new cases for mailing descriptive videos. The new cases differ from their predecessors in the way they open and close.

Here are instructions for opening the new mailing cases. First, lay the case with the clear plastic mailing label facing down on a flat surface. Next, press the two tabs labeled "Press" inward simultaneously. These tabs are ridged so you can feel them even if you cannot see them. If the case doesn't fall open, you might need to lift it up a few inches and give it a small shake, then try again. Closing the case is easy, you just insert the video and fold the case lid over until it clicks.

If you have any questions about using the new case, please call Greta at 1-800-372-2968.

Catalog News

Descriptive Video Catalogs

KTBL has compiled a catalog of all descriptive videos available in our collection. Call Greta at 1-800-372-2968 if you are interested in descriptive videos and would like a catalog in large print or on cassette. Due to high printing costs, we must limit catalogs to one per patron, so please keep your DVS Catalog for future reference. Cassette versions may be returned to KTBL once you have made your selections. This catalog was produced with money that was generously donated by our patrons.

2006 KY Book Catalog

KTBL has recently produced a catalog of all the Kentucky books we have recorded over the years. Call your librarian at 1-800-372-2968 if you would like to receive a large-print copy. Due to high printing costs, we can only provide one catalog per patron. You may either keep it for future reference, or return it to us once you have made your selections. We are in the process of recording the Kentucky Books Catalog—call your librarian if you prefer a cassette version.

Cassette Books 2005 Catalog

NLS has compiled all the books produced during 2005 into a year-end catalog. This includes the same books that appeared in *Talking Book Topics* during 2005. If you would like a large-print copy, call KTBL at 1-800-372-2968. A cassette version will appear in *Talking Book Topics* when it is available for loan.

Your Right to Vote

Election Day is Tuesday, November 7, 2006. The U.S. Constitution gives almost everyone over age 18 the right to vote. This is a special right—*Your Voice: Your Vote!* By exercising your right to vote, your voice can help shape the future of Kentucky and the United States.

All polling places must be accessible to everyone. The doors should be wide enough for a wheelchair to go through. There should be ramps or elevators if there are steps. Even the parking lot and the walkway must be accessible. While not all voting machines are accessible, each polling place must have at least one voting machine that is. If you need help, ask one of the election officers to help you read the ballot, mark it, or push buttons in the voting booth. You may bring someone of your choice to help you, but it can't be your boss or an agent of your union.

If you want to vote in the November general election, you must be registered by October 10, 2006. If you have any questions about voting, you may call your county clerk's office or the Kentucky Department for Protection and Advocacy at 1-800-372-2988. If you would like a complete copy of the pamphlet, *Your Voice: Your Vote!* call Protection and Advocacy at the above number.

Summer Reading Results

We had a small number of patrons participate in our summer reading program this year. Every book they read gave them a chance to win the grand prize drawing. Ray C. (almost 70 years old) was the lucky winner of a Sony Travel Mate personal-sized 4-track cassette player. Simon H. (age 9) won a digital voice recorder, Austin C. (age 13) won a talking alarm clock, and Ryan M. (age 10) won a talking clock key chain. All participants also received coupons and passes to various attractions around Kentucky. Watch future newsletters for information about the 2007 Summer Reading Program. Maybe you will be a winner next year!

Announcements

Daily Living Catalog 2006-2007

The Daily Living Catalog, available from the American Printing House for the Blind, contains a selection of items designed for older students and adults who are visually impaired, their families, and their service providers. Products have been reorganized into user-friendly categories, such as *"Around the Home," "Having Fun," "Going Places: Orientation and Mobility,"* and *"At the Computer."* This catalog is available in print, on cassette tape, on CD-ROM, and online. Request your free copy by emailing catalogs@aph.org, or calling 1-800-223-1839.

Reader's Digest and Newsweek

It's about that time of year again. Annually, the American Printing House for the Blind mails out forms asking if you want to continue to receive *Reader's Digest* and *Newsweek*. You need to fill out this form and return it or your magazines will be cancelled. A donation is requested but not required. These magazines are free but be sure to re-subscribe each year when you receive the form.

Going South for the Winter?

The librarians want to remind our "snowbirds" (and others) that you can take your service with you to a temporary address. Just give us about a week's notice to process the address change. Don't forget to let us know when to revert back to your permanent address.

Consumer Protection Tip of the Day

Seniors are often targeted by phony mail, TV, radio and newspaper offers about the new Medicare drug plans. These sales materials are designed to look like official government documents, but if you send money to these companies, you will receive a useless card. Consumers should be aware that companies offering Medicare drug cards are not allowed to call, send e-mails or come to your home unless you ask them. If you are interested in the benefits available to you as a Medicare beneficiary, visit the federal government's Medicare web site at www.medicare.gov, or call 1-800-633-4227.

Donations

Contributions to our program, whether large or small, make a difference to us. Donations recently allowed us to print a new DVS catalog. Thank you all for your generosity!

David Clay Fields

Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. Hardin

Anne P. Kirkpatrick

Sharleen Power, in memory of Josephine Foster

Sharleen Power

Imogene Miller

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, P O Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537. Please do not send cash through the mail. Donations are 100% tax deductible and appreciated by the patrons who use our service.

Dates to Remember

KTBL will be closed on the following days:

October 26: Staff Development Day

November 10: Veterans' Day

November 23-24: Thanksgiving

December 25-26: Christmas

January 1-2, 2007: New Year's Day

If you call during regular work hours and get a recorded greeting, it means our staff are busy with other patrons, or we are in a meeting. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

**Please Remember to Rewind
All Tapes**

Important Items to Remember

Kentucky Talking Book Library

1-800-372-2968

1-502-564-8300 ext 276 (local)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time zone)

You may leave a voice mail message after hours.

We want you to enjoy Talking Books. Your librarian will tailor your service to suit your needs. She will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to call us for any of the following:

- **to make book requests**
- **with any questions or problems**
- **whenever your name, address, or telephone number changes**
- **to temporarily stop service**
- **if you want to change the types of books you get, or the number of books you receive**
- **when you have problems with books or machines**
- **if you want to change the format of your newsletters or catalogs**
- **to cancel your service**

Include your name, address, and telephone number on all correspondence, request lists, e-mails, and telephone messages.

Please return each book as soon as you finish it. The maximum loan period is 30 days.

Kentucky magazines and the cassette version of The Listening Post must be returned to KTBL within 30 days. Keeping the magazine or newsletter longer may prevent you from receiving future issues.

Remember to rewind all movies and cassette tapes before returning them.

Mark an "X" on the mailcard of any defective book.

Take care of all cassette books, Braille books, and cassette players; keep them free of food, liquids, dust, and debris.

Please keep this list for future reference.



In providing information to readers of *The Listening Post*, the Kentucky Talking Book Library does not endorse any product or service referred to in this newsletter.

The Listening Post

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KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
P O BOX 537
FRANKFORT KY 40602-0537

FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND AND
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED



The Listening Post is also available on cassette or in Braille. If you prefer the cassette or Braille version, please call 1-800-372-2968.